



RESPONSIBLE REFORM FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS DEMOCRATS.SENATE.GOV/REFORM

Oklahoma: The Cost of Inaction

Oklahoma Families Suffer

Oklahoma insurance premiums skyrocket

- ✓ In 1997, family health insurance purchased through an employer cost \$4,983.
- ✓ In 2006, the same family health insurance cost \$10,592.
- ✓ By 2016, the same insurance is projected to cost \$22,514, a 113 percent increase over 2006, which will consume 49.4 percent of projected Oklahoma median family income.

More uninsured Oklahomans

- ✓ Every day, 50 Oklahomans lose their health insurance.
- ✓ During the last two years, 1,122,000 Oklahomans under age 65 went without health insurance for some time, which is 36.3 percent of the under 65 population.
- ✓ In 2007, 646,363 Oklahomans under age 65 were uninsured for the entire year, which is 21.2 percent of the under 65 population.

Oklahomans pay higher premiums due to the uninsured

- ✓ Oklahoma families pay a “hidden tax” of \$1,900 on their health insurance premiums due to the unpaid costs of care for the uninsured.

Fewer choices due to consolidated market

- ✓ The two largest health insurance companies in Oklahoma have a combined market share of 71 percent.

Oklahoma Businesses Suffer

Fewer Oklahomans have health coverage at work

- ✓ In 2002, 61.3 percent of Oklahomans under age 65 had employer-sponsored health insurance.
- ✓ In 2007, 55 percent of Oklahomans had coverage through their employer.

Oklahoma Economy Suffers

Health care spending climbs

- ✓ In 2004, Oklahoma spent \$17.3 billion on health care.
- ✓ This spending level represents \$4,917 per capita, and is 14.8 percent of the Gross State Product.

Lost economic output of the uninsured due to shorter lives and poorer health

- ✓ This year, the Oklahoma economy will lose \$1.7 billion - \$3.4 billion due to the shorter lives and poorer health of the uninsured.